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Re: 10/656,948
Title: EXHAUST SYSTEM FLANGES
Inventor(s): VASUDEVA, Kailash C.
Atty Docket: PAT 51403A-2

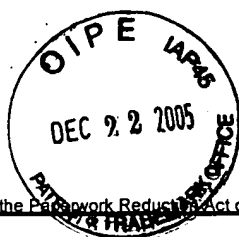
The following documents are being filed at the USPTO herewith:

1. Transmittal Form – 1 page
2. Information Disclosure Statement Cover Letter – 4 pages
3. Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant – 1 page

USPTO: Kindly affix your date stamp

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

5

Application Number

10/656,948

Filing Date

September 8, 2003

First Named Inventor

VASUDEVA, Kailash C.

Art Unit

3677

Examiner Name

RODRIGUEZ, Ruth C.

Attorney Docket Number

PAT 51403A-2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remarks | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Printed name | Jeffrey W. Wong | | |
| Date | December 21, 2005 | Reg. No. | 46,414 |

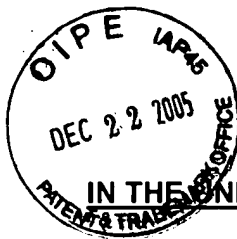
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

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| Signature | | | |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: VASUDEVA, Kailash C.
Serial No.: 10/656,948
Filed: September 8, 2003
Title: EXHAUST SYSTEM FLANGES
Group: 3677
Examiner: RODRIGUEZ, Ruth C.
Attorney Ref.: PAT 51403A-2

December 21, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Randolph Building, Mail Stop Amendment
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22312
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☐ a. Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent and application; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☒ b. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no U.S. patent or published application copies are enclosed. Where applicable, submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent or application; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☐ c. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed since they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

12/27/2005 HALI11 00000137 501593 10656948
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III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE

☐ a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

☐ b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

☐ c. ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign Patent Office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A) (3).

☒ d. OTHER

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b):

☐ a. Within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) (1)). No fee or statement is required.

☐ b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) (2)). No fee or statement is required.

☐ c. Concurrently with the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) or concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) (4)). No fee or statement is required.

☒ d. Before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) (3)). No fee or statement is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e) below, or, if no statement has been made, charge our deposit account in the amount of **\$180.00** as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p).

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c):

- ☒ a. No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of **\$180.00** as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p).
- ☐ b. See the statement below. No fee is required.

VI. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)

The undersigned hereby states that

- ☐ a. Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- ☐ b. No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- ☐ c. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in the 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES

- ☐ A cheque in the amount of **\$180.00** as required by 37 C.F.R § 1.17 (p) is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 501593 in the amount required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.
- ☐ No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 501593.

If the preceding amount is incorrect, any deficiency or overpayment should also be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 501593, in the name of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

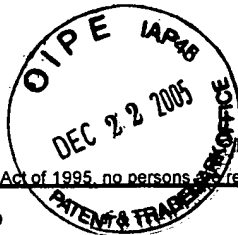


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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/656,948 |
| Filing Date | September 8, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | VASUDEVA, Kailash C. |
| Art Unit | 3677 |
| Examiner Name | RODRIGUEZ, Ruth C. |
| Attorney Docket Number | PAT 51403A-2 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | US- 3,503,634 | 03-31-1970 | J.G. CADIOU | |
| | | US- 4,408,451 | 10-11-1983 | SIGWALD et al. | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
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Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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